

BAMBERGER & POLSKY, S.C.



Two Plaza East, Suite 1085 330 East Kilbourn Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

> 414.273.4200 Fax 414.273.7786

August 29, 2017

## VIA FIRST CLASS U.S. MAIL

Re: Notice of potential plant closing or mass layoff

To All EMPLOYEES of Gordy's Chippewa Foods, Inc. and certain related entities:

We regret to inform you that as of August 23, 2017, Gordy's Chippewa Foods, Inc. and certain related entities, (collectively, "the Gordy's Entities") are the subject of a receivership proceeding in the Circuit Court for Chippewa County, Wisconsin under Chapter 128 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The purpose of the receivership is to attempt to find suitable buyers to purchase the Gordy's Entities as a going concern. If we are unable to find suitable going concern buyers for any of the Gordy's Entities, or if the buyers of a Gordy's Entity do not hire substantially all of the employees of the Gordy's Entity, a mass layoff or plant closing may follow with the employee separations to take place on or beginning sixty (60) days from the date of this letter. The affected Gordy's Entities and their locations are provided on the enclosed "Exhibit A." If the Gordy's Entities are ultimately closed, or if the buyers do not hire any of the Gordy's Entities' employees, we expect it to result in the permanent elimination of all 1,008 employees. This includes both union and non-union employees.

Please be aware that business circumstances may change and that all employees may not be permanently laid off if the Gordy's Entities are purchased and remain operational. It is impossible for us to determine at present which employees may be affected, if any.

We have also notified the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Dislocated Worker Unit, all Union representatives, and all local government officials.

In addition, this letter is to notify you that healthcare benefit coverage for employees of the Gordy's Entities and their dependents, including surviving covered dependents of employees, may also be terminated sixty (60) days from the date of this letter. Your dependent(s), if any, will be given notice of this cessation of healthcare benefit coverage in a separate letter. The Gordy's Entities are not in a position at this time to advise whether you or your dependents are entitled to notice or rights under COBRA or any state law equivalent upon cessation of its healthcare benefit plans.

The information provided in this letter is based upon the best information available to the Gordy's Entities at this time. This letter is provided pursuant to state and federal laws, which encourage employers who are not required to comply with the business closing notice statutes to,



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nonetheless, provide such notice, and should not be construed as an admission of coverage under 29 U.S.C. § 2101, et seq., or Wis. Stat. § 109.07.

We regret having to make the decision; however, business and industry circumstances leave us no alternative. We thank you for your hard work and dedication. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 414-390-5935, or by e-mail at mpolsky@bcblaw.net.

Very truly yours,

BECK, CHAET, BAMBERGER & POLSKY, S.C.

Michael S. Polsky

cc: Jim Chiolino, Esq. (via email)
F. Mark Bromley, Esq. (via email)
Carla Andres, Esq. (via email)
Heather Hunt, Esq. (via email)
Jim Bartzen, Esq. (via email)
James Sweet, Esq. (via email)
James Baillie, Esq. (via email)

Mr. Scott Kohler (via email)

## **EXHIBIT A**

GORDY'S CHIPPEWA FOODS, INC. 212 Bay Street Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin 54729

GORDY'S FOOD & LIQUOR, INC. 17158 County Highway J Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin 54729

GORDY'S EAU CLAIRE FOODS, INC. 2717 Birch Street
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703

CORNELL FOODS, INC. 522 Bridge Street Cornell, Wisconsin 54732

LADYSMITH FOODS, INC. 400 W. 9th Street North, Ladysmith, Wisconsin 54848

GORDY'S EAU CLAIRE SOUTH, INC. 3310 East Hamilton Avenue Eau Claire, WI 54703

GORDY'S AUGUSTA FOODS, INC. 155 W. Lincoln Street Augusta, Wisconsin 54722

GORDY'S EAU CLAIRE WEST, INC 1031 West Clairemont Avenue Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703

GORDY'S CHETEK FOODS, INC. 719 2nd Street Chetek, Wisconsin 54728

GORDY'S RICE LAKE FOODS, INC. 2601 S. Main Street Rice Lake, Wisconsin 54868

GORDY'S NEILLSVILLE FOODS, INC. 320 E. Division Street Neillsville, Wisconsin 54456

GORDY'S SHELL LAKE FOODS, INC. 37 5th Avenue Shell Lake, Wisconsin 54871

GORDY'S ARCADIA FOODS, INC. 550 Dettloff Drive Arcadia, Wisconsin 54612

GORDY'S GALESVILLE FOODS, INC. 17512 North Main Street Galesville, Wisconsin 54630

GORDY'S LACROSSE FOODS, INC. 1607 George Street La Crosse, Wisconsin 54603

GORDY'S STANLEY FOODS, INC. 614 South Broadway Street Stanley, WI 54768

GORDY'S BARRON FOODS, INC. 622 La Salle Avenue Barron, Wisconsin 54812

GORDY'S WHITEHALL FOODS, INC. 36394 Ellis Street Whitehall, Wisconsin 54773

GORDY'S EAU CLAIRE CLAIREMONT FOODS, INC., 2615 N. Clairemont Avenue Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703

GORDY'S HAYWARD FOODS, INC. 15870 U.S. Highway 63 Hayward, Wisconsin 54843

GORDY'S CHIPPEWA SOUTH, INC. 303 Prairie View Road Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin 54729

GORDY'S BLACK RIVER FALLS, INC. 449 County Road A West Black River Falls, Wisconsin 54615

GORDY'S RICHLAND CENTER FOODS, INC. Richland Square #195 Highway 14 East Richland Center, Wisconsin 53581

GORDY'S SPENCER FOODS, INC. 1110 South Pacific Street Spencer, Wisconsin 54479 GORDY'S TOMAH FOODS, INC. 701 East Clifton Tomah, Wisconsin 54660